

Accepted / Filed

NOV 15 2017

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT

November 9, 2017

CC: 02-6

Mr. Ajit Pai
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Dear Chairman Pai:

On behalf of Texas school districts affected by Hurricane Harvey, thank you and your fellow commissioners for the relief granted in the October 26 (FCC 17-139) order regarding Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria. This relief will go a long way in helping school districts and libraries in their recovery from the devastation impacting their telecommunications networks and infrastructure.

In Texas, we have school systems serving over 1.4 million students recovering from the damage of Hurricane Harvey. Although most have been able to open their doors to students, staff are currently concentrating on providing basic supplies like desks and instructional materials. Unfortunately, some schools and districts may not have completed assessments of their E-rate eligible services in order to request additional funding during the Second FY17 Application window timeframe. One such example is a district that has four miles of fiber that has been unearthed. At this time, the district does not know if the fiber is operational, non-functional or repairable, and it is unlikely it will know within the application window.

In order to ensure that all impacted school districts can take advantage of the relief granted in the FCC order, we are requesting that the application window for filing be extended for six months, until June 2018.

We appreciate your careful consideration of our request as we continue to strive to provide the best environment for the school children of Texas.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg Abbott".

Greg Abbott
Governor

GA:dwk

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